

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action dated November 23, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-35 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 14, 15, 29, 30, 34, and 35 are amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 36, which is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,754,634 to Kay et al. ("Kay") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,058,170 to Jagadish et al. ("Jagadish-170") and U.S. Patent No. 6,125,173 to Jagadish et al. ("Jagadish-173") further in view of U.S. Pub. No. US2003/0045266 for Staskal et al. ("Staskal").

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 103 be withdrawn in light of the amendments to claims 1, 14, 15, 29, 30, 34, and 35 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 36. Therefore, claims 1, 14, 15, 29, 30, 34, and 35 are also allowable for at least the reasons claim 36 is allowable.

Claims 2-13 depend from claim 1 and, thus, inherit at least the patentable subject matter of claim 1. Therefore, claims 2-13 are also allowable.

Claims 16-28 depend from claim 15 and, thus, inherit at least the patentable subject matter of claim 15. Therefore, claims 16-28 are also allowable.

Claims 31-33 depend from claim 30 and, thus, inherit at least the patentable subject matter of claim 30. Therefore, claims 31-33 are also allowable.


The Office Action objected to claim 36 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claim 36 is cancelled.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges with respect to this response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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